

feet rather small, tarsus short; tail rather shorter than the body, thick at the base; fur long and extremely soft, and silk-like. General colour pale grayish brown, with a slight yellow wash; the upper part of the head and the back dusky brown; under parts of the body very pale yellowish brown, inclining to white; chin and throat whitish; feet dirty white; tail well clothed with hairs, which are closely adpressed, brown above, and of a very pale brown beneath at the base, darker towards the apex. The hairs of the moustaches are numerous, long, rather slender, and of a brownish colour. The ears are brown, furnished externally at the base with fur resembling that of the body; the remaining parts (both external and internal) are beset with long and extremely slender brown hairs, which project considerably beyond the margin of the ear. The ordinary fur on the back is about ten lines in length, but thickly interspersed with this fur, are longer hairs which are so delicate that they may almost be compared to the spiders' thread. Both on the upper and under side of the body the fur is deep gray at the base. The incisors are yellow.

	In.	Lines.		In.	Lines.
Length from nose to root of tail	. 9	9	Length of tarsus (claws included)	. 1	4
of tail	. 5	0	of ear	. 0	10
from nose to ear	. 1	11	Width of ear	. 1	0½

Habitat, Chile, (August.)

"This animal was caught amongst some thickets in a valley on the flanks of the Cordillera, near Aconcagua. On the elevated plain, near the town of Santa Rosa, in front of the same part of the Andes, I saw two others, which were crawling up an acacia tree, with so much facility, that this practice must be, I should think, habitual with them."—D.

## 2. ABROCOMA CUVIERI.

### PLATE XXIX.

*Abrocoma Cuvieri*, *Waterh.*, Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London for February 1837, p. 32.

*Ab. supra grisea, levitèr ochraceo lavata; abdomine gulâque albescenti-griseis; pedibus sordidè albis; auribus amplis, ad marginem posticum distinctè emarginatis; caudâ corpore multò breviorè, et nigrescente.*

DESCRIPTION.—Ears large; tail considerably shorter than the body; fur extremely

soft; general colour gray faintly washed with yellow; under parts of the body grayish white; feet dirty white; tail dusky, paler beneath at the base: the ears are large, distinctly emarginated behind, and appear to be almost naked, but, upon close examination, long and extremely fine hairs may be observed. All the fur is gray at the base; the hairs of the moustaches are numerous and very long, those nearest the mouth are white, the others are black at the base and grayish beyond. The incisors are of a palish yellow colour.

	In.	Lines.		In.	Lines.
Length from nose to the root of tail	. 6	6	Length of tarsi (claws included)	. 1	1
of tail	. 2	10	of ear	. 0	7
from nose to ear	. 1	4	Width of ear	. 0	7½

Habitat, Chile, (September.)

This species is about one-third the size of the last, it differs moreover in being gray instead of brown, and in having the posterior margin of the ear emarginated; the tail is also rather shorter in proportion.

The skull\* is figured in Plate 33, fig. 1, *a*, and 1, *b*; and fig. 23, *a*, Plate 34. Its length is 1 inch, 4½ lines; width 9¼ lines; length of nasal bones 6 lines; distance between fore part of incisors and the front molar (upper jaw) 5 lines; longitudinal extent of the three molars of upper jaw 3 lines; length of auditory bullæ 5½ lines; length of *ramus* of lower jaw (see Plate 33, fig. 1, *c*), without incisors, 11½ lines. Fig. 23, *c*, Plate 34, represents the inner side of a *ramus* of the lower jaw: fig. 1, *d*, Plate 33, is the lower jaw seen from above: fig. 23, *b*, Plate 34, is the same seen from beneath. This view is given to show the position of the descending ramus of the lower jaw—that it springs from the outer side of the alveolar portion, as in a great portion of the South American Rodents, such as *Dasyprocta*, *Myopotamus*, *Echimy*s, *Chinchilla*, and also in that genus found in the West Indian islands, *Capromys*. Fig. 1, *e*, Plate 33, represents the molar teeth of the upper jaw, and fig. 1, *f*, those of the lower.

"This species is abundant on the dry hills, partly covered with bushes, near Valparaiso."—D.

\* The skull is, unfortunately, imperfect, the hinder portion is injured, and the arches which enclosed the ant-orbital openings are broken.